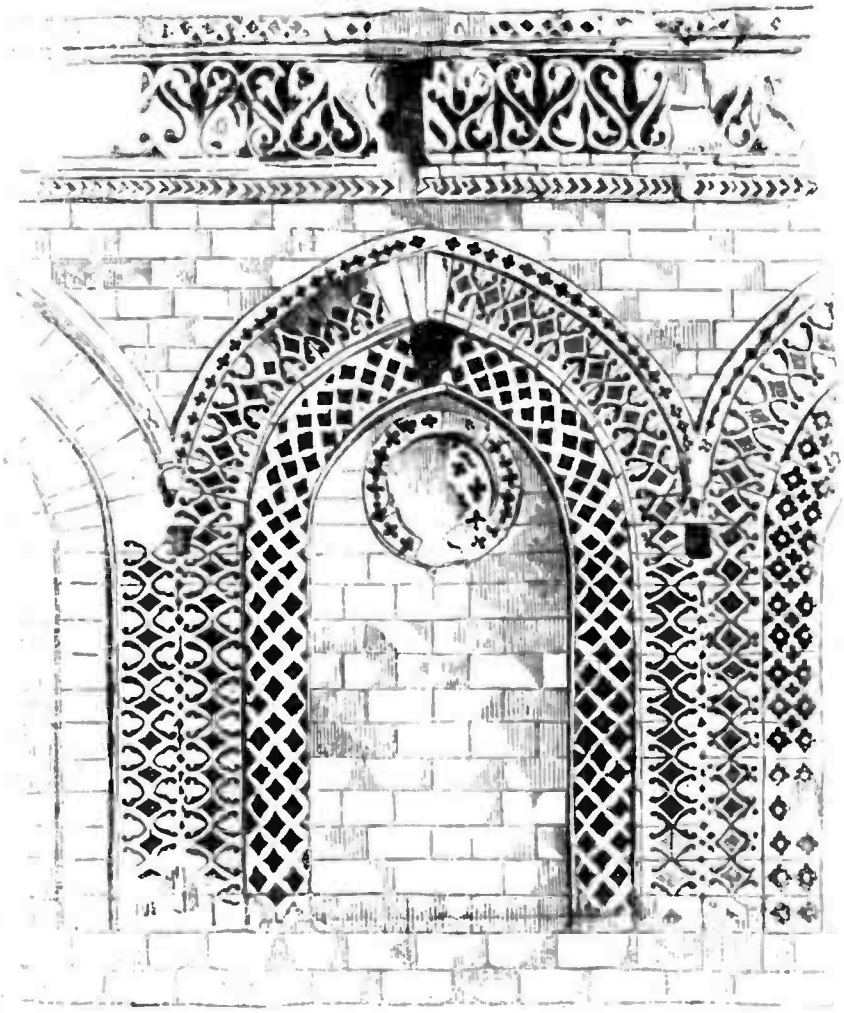
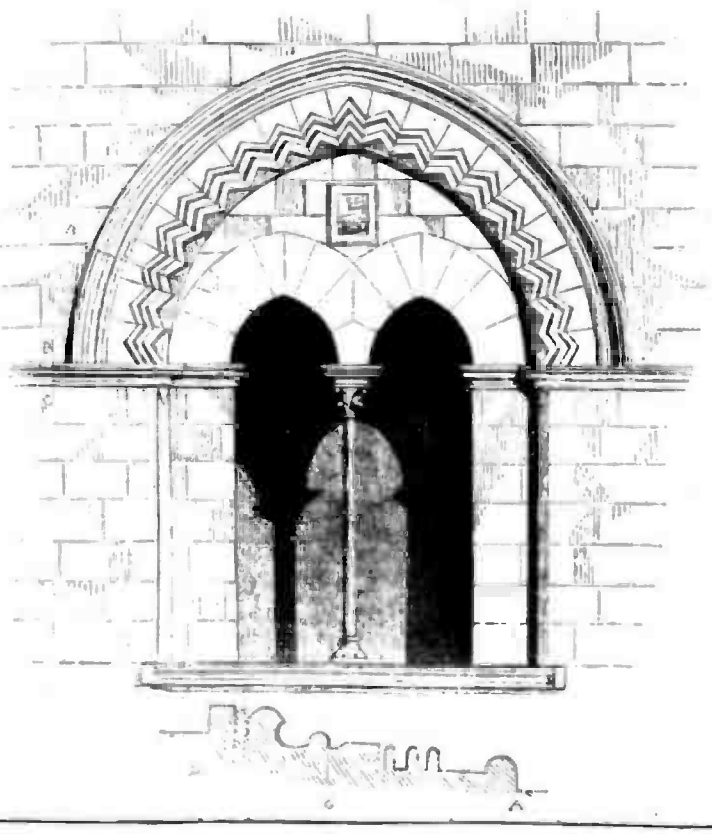
FROM PALERMO CATHEDRAL.

CLERESTORY WINDOW.



WINDOW AT GIRGENTI.



only is given in the plate, is Saracenic in design, but executed by a Greek workman.

In the portal of the church of L'Abbadia at Girgenti (miscalled, as was afterwards pointed out), we observe a similar curve in the arch, but a much more simple design. It was built previous to A.D. 1170, and is an exceedingly pure and elegant specimen, exhibiting great breadth and firmness. The arch is composed of three sinkings, each of which has the torus, hollow, and the astragal moulding. The hood resembles that in the preceding example, with the exception of being somewhat flatter, and terminating in a scroll. We may observe generally, that there are key-stones in all the arches of the Normans in Sicily. It will be noticed that an improved construction was adopted in this doorway, the lintel and tympanum being abolished. The mouldings of the impost are debased Roman. The capitals are foliated, similar to those which are ordinarily designated early English. On the angle of the pier next the exterior columns, a quatrefoil ornament is sculptured.

In the present number, the first engraving exhibits one of the clerestory windows, taken from the south side of the Cathedral of Palermo, which, with the crypt and a portion of the east end, is all that remains of the original structure. The rest of this magnificent edifice was erected during the fourteenth and three subsequent centuries. The oldest part was built in A.D. 1169, by Walter Offamilco, an Englishman, who was made Archbishop of Palermo, and the cathedral was consecrated in 1185. We desire particularly to notice the great richness of effect exhibited in this example. It is produced by an arrangement of numerous mosaic patterns, inserted on the face of the arch, the hood moulding and the

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